## United States Attorney William W. Mercer District of Montana

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## MONTANA MAN SENTENCED FOR COERCION AND ENTICEMENT

BILLINGS – Gary Schlake, a 35-year-old resident of Missoula, was sentenced today to a term of 210 months in federal prison, consecutive to another sentence. Schlake was also ordered to pay a special assessment of \$100 and will be under supervision for life.

Schlake was sentenced after having been found guilty during a 2-day trial of coercion and enticement.

Because there is no parole in the federal system, the "truth in sentencing" guidelines mandate that Schlake will likely serve **all** of the time imposed by the court. In the federal system, Schlake does have the opportunity to earn a sentence reduction for "good behavior." However, this reduction will not exceed 15% of the overall sentence.

The investigation was a cooperative effort between the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Flathead County Sheriff's Office. Assistant United States Attorney Marcia K. Hurd prosecuted the case.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys' Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit <a href="https://www.projectsafechildhood.gov/">www.projectsafechildhood.gov/</a>.